

# THE BLOOMFIELD CITIZEN.

VOLUME VI. NO. 35.

BLOOMFIELD, N. J., SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1888.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

The Bloomfield Citizen.

A WEEKLY JOURNAL  
or  
Local News and Home Reading  
ISSUED BY THE  
Bloomfield Publishing Company,  
AT  
BLOOMFIELD, ESSEX COUNTY, N. J.  
and at the Post Office at Bloomfield as Second Class  
Matter.

25 Broad St., near the Post Office.

PESTS (one copy 1 year) \$2.00  
PESTS (one copy 6 months) 1.00  
PESTS (one copy 3 months) .50  
Subscriptions payable in advance.

MORRIS HULIN, Publisher.

WALKS ABOUT TOWN.

To The Bloomfield Citizen:  
There are so many cases of accidental shooting by the careless use of firearms that any day we look in the daily papers we can read one or more fatal accidents resulting therefrom. The Newark Advertiser, noting the shooting of a child in that city by the accidental discharge of a pistol, says:

The law allowed in the use of firearms and explosives needs some restraint. It exists here to a frightful extent and is not allowed in any other civilized country on the globe. Almost every hardware store and toy shop displays pistols and shot-guns. In the shooting gallery, and among boys, emulating the vices of their elders more than they do their virtues, are eager to purchase them. With perhaps no malicious purpose, but certainly without discretion or skill, they use weapons which are dangerous to themselves and less than an innocent being. A precious life is lost and a family plunged into irreparable grief.

No person whose business or circumstances do not make it necessary that he should go about with a loaded weapon, should carry any such thing about his person. Of course there are exceptional cases where it is advisable for a person to have a weapon handy for his protection, and these cases are distinguishable. The sad fatal casualties resulting from the careless use of firearms ought to be a warning against the habit of carrying them.

In looking over the Paterson Press, I noted the following in regard to the taxing of church property:

Another movement, looking to an attempt all over the country to tax church property is said to be on foot.

This attempt is safe to predict, will not meet with success. It has always been a safe and prudent course to tax property held solely for religious and charitable purposes subjects of tax.

There is no valid reason why church property should be exempt from taxation, and several reasons why it should be taxed the same as any other property. The only sound basis of taxation is the taxing of all property of every description which does not belong to the taxing power. All exemptions are the seed of evil, and the exempting of church property has grown into an abuse of alarming extent. The city of New York has lost many millions of dollars for the benefit of churches and religious sects. It would have been better if the churches had never sought exemption from taxation. It is a mistake and vicious policy, and all church property should be brought within the scope of legal and equal taxation.

It would not be a bad idea if the town authorities would appropriate a few dollars for the painting of the lamposts throughout Bloomfield. They are very rusty and do not in their present condition present a well-kept appearance. A person accidentally touching them is liable to carry iron rust away with him. The expense would not be very great for the authorities to buy some green paint and hire a man. The improvement would be quickly noticed.

Last Sunday was another fine day for the corner loungers to assemble at the Centre and have their usual fair weather discussion, and arguments, and smoke their vile cigars. I did not know there were so many young men in Bloomfield, but in passing through Glenwood Avenue from Bloomfield Avenue I counted them by the dozen, out sunning themselves in front of the stores and littering up the sidewalk. They were clothed in their best Sunday suits but their behavior was not of the best. It would seem, to a stranger, that the town does not have officers to keep the young moving.

It is now the time of year when certain orders of fine horses have them clipped, or in other words rob them of what nature meant they should have to protect themselves against severe weather. Why is it that men are so heathenish? It is the style, the fashion. It is "English you know," and affords an opportunity to pattern after an aristocracy that, as Americans, if they would read the cable dispatches occasionally, they would be ashamed to imitate. I notice quite a number in Glen Ridge, Montclair, and Orange, and if those same gentlemen would only take it upon themselves to put on summer underclothes, a linen duster and Oxford ties, at this season of the year, they would know how it was themselves. I have no doubt they would, if it was English.

WANDERER

—Peter Adams, the conductor on the Orange Branch of the Erie Railway who was struck by a locomotive a few weeks ago at Bergen tunnel, died of his injuries on Sunday last.

A Public Monument Proposed for Bloomfield.

To The Citizen:  
The generous offer of two hundred dollars from the Citizens' Protective Association toward rearing a soldiers' monument in Bloomfield is a patriotic contribution for a grand object. It is now in order to heartily thank the C. P. A., and to express the earnest hope that the veterans and comrades of the G. A. R. will move promptly and not let this offer go by default.

At the last meeting held by the old Bloomfield Veteran Association, I was Secretary, and the association as such has never since been convened. This was about ten years ago. Immediately after the meeting I referred to the papers, badges and funds of the Veteran Association were sent to me, the practical effect being, as most of us believed and assumed, the merging of the B. V. A. in with S. Pierson Post, G. A. R., of which I was then the adjutant. So it seems to have passed into history that the B. V. A. voluntarily ceased to be, the G. A. R. organization taking its place. I suppose the society making this offer would have no objection to the Grand Army merging the benefit of the nest-egg offered toward the raising of a monument fund.

Still, I am disposed to recognize the fact that the old association might be revived, if necessary. The balance in its treasury, left in my keeping was but fifteen cents—not much toward buying a monument—yet if the veterans will unite for the purpose under auspices of the G. A. R., I will take steps in paying over the fund, with interest added, at a rate high enough to make the whole amount fifteen dollars, as a contribution toward the monument.

I would suggest that the ex-soldiers raise \$2,000 in such modest sums as most of us can subscribe and raise from the proceeds of a fair, during the next two years. This money—the popular subscriptions—should be devoted to the soldiers' monument project, by which is meant a foundation and suitably designed plinth to be surmounted by a more costly work of art in the form of a statue. The location should be near the centre of the Green.

To successfully carry out this plan there should also be a live citizens' committee, to raise not less than \$3,000 additional, from our wealthy residents, many of whom would esteem it a patriotic privilege and a good investment, to crown the soldiers' monument with a fine bronze statue of Governor Bloomfield. Is not our town, with its unique "water-park," worthy of such embellishment? The public ground, now that it is properly kept in order, and looks so beautiful in the summer, needs just such a gem in its emerald setting as this monument would supply. What is the opinion of THE CITIZEN, or the veterans, and of the people?

S. M. H.

Harrison Morton.

To The Citizen:  
At baptismal service last Sunday in a church of our village one of the children was christened "Harrison Morton."

This little cherub will bear all through its life the names of our President and Vice-President elect; he like all little boys born in the United States, may one day become its President.

Our country has its Abraham Lincoln, Ulysses Grant, F. G. Grover's, now let the little Harrison's come along; God bless 'em.

Christmas Music at the First Church.

At the First Presbyterian Church there will be a special Christmas song service this coming Sunday evening, with a triple quartette of singers. Several well-known singers from Orange are to take part, kindly giving their services. Among the musical selections are a

Te Deum, by Dudley Buck.  
"Blessed be the Lord God of Israel," by Dudley Buck.  
"White Shepherds Watched," by Dudley Buck.  
"Let us go now even unto Bethlehem," by Dudley Buck.  
"Sleep, Holy Babe," and several carols.

W. T. C. U.

The regular monthly Gospel temperance meeting held under the auspices of the W. C. T. U. was held as usual in Sprague's Pavilion last Sunday. Rev. Mr. Paul of the Westminster church delivered an eloquent and earnest address on Gospel temperance work. The two songs sung by Mrs. Joseph Hague added much to the interest of the meeting.

County and Vicinity.

The people of Orange are talking of erecting a monument to the memory of Gen. Geo. B. McClellan in Military Park in that city.

Joseph B. Meeker, Jonas Agents and E. G. Faughton, prominent citizens of Newark, and well known throughout the county, died the latter part of last week.

Ex-Sheriff Wm. H. Brown went to the widow of the late Senator, Emil Toering, a check for \$1,000, the entire net receipts of the Register's office during the two months Mr. Brown occupied it.

The tobacconist slides of the Essex County Country Club were tested last Saturday night. Should the weather prove favorable the informal opening will take place to-night (Sunday) the 22d inst.

—Julius H. Pratt, of Montclair, has made overtures to the Newark Water Supply Commission which will secure to the city the ownership of such property and water rights as would furnish a gravity supply from the mountainous regions of the Pequannock, and connected with it an offer from responsible contractors to construct the works, with guarantees for successful completion and peaceful possession.

—Edward Heckel and Thos. H. Decker, representing citizens in that portion of Belleville known as Silver Lake District, will make application to the Legislature for the annexation of the district to Bloomfield township.

WANDERER

—Peter Adams, the conductor on the Orange Branch of the Erie Railway who was struck by a locomotive a few weeks ago at Bergen tunnel, died of his injuries on Sunday last.



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Attorney and Counselor at Law,

Office, 750 Broad St., Newark, N. J.

Residence, Elm St., Bloomfield.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS, ETC., TAKEN.

WHITEHEAD, GALLAGHER & RICHARDS,

LAW OFFICES,

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The season of 1888-9 will begin with the Fall Term, on Saturday, October 1, 1888. Class for Ladies (beginners) Monday evening, October 15, at 7:30 o'clock. Girls at 9 o'clock.

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